

JEAN ELIOT'S CHRONICLES OF CAPITAL SOCIETY DOINGS

Capital Must Forego Proper Official Season

DEAR SUSAN: It is fast becoming evident that Washington will have to worry along without any proper official season this year. True, the President and Mrs. Wilson are almost home, but apparently, like the hero of a song popular a year or two ago, they are merely to walk right in and turn around and walk right out again. And it would seem certain that they will have neither time nor inclination for anything in the way of social events in the crowded days between their arrival at Washington and their departure for their second voyage overseas.

There is certainly nothing of a social character about the dinner President Wilson is giving for the members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and the House immediately after his return. It wouldn't you love to be hidden behind a curtain in the White House dining room while the dinner is going on?

Wallaces Are Undecided About Future Plans. Mrs. Hugh Wallace, wife of the newly appointed American Ambassador to France, tells me that as yet they have made no plans for their departure for their new post. Indeed, at the time I talked to her Mr. Wallace's appointment had not been confirmed by the Senate. There is no hint of any opposition, so far as I know, but of course, they must wait the observance of this formality before seriously setting about their preparations. Moreover, Mr. Wallace has not yet received any instructions and probably will not until after the President's return.

Nowadays the race is apparently to the "dark horse" when it comes to the diplomatic and political appointments in the gift of President Wilson. The name of John W. Davis, then solicitor general, was never mentioned in connection with the post of American Ambassador to the court of St. James until the announcement was made that he had been offered the position and had accepted. The appointment of Mr. Wallace as the diplomatic representative of the United States in France occasioned equal surprise, for in some quarters it was definitely stated that Vance McCormick was to have the job, other prominent men being discussed in connection therewith, and no mention of Hugh Wallace's name had even found its way into print.

However, on examination, the appointment, like that of Mr. Davis,

seems to be an exceedingly sound one, and one to meet with general and genuine approval. Except that he is a member of the Democratic national committee, and has taken prominent part in several Presidential campaigns, Mr. Wallace has had no active hand in politics. However, he has handled several diplomatic and personal missions for the President, whose closest friend and ardent supporter he is, with great tact and discretion; and he is a man for whose judgment Mr. Wilson and others of the Administration have the most profound respect.

Mrs. Wallace, Daughter of Chief Justice. And, of course, the Wallaces are "to the manor born," dignified, high bred, cultivated people, just the sort by whom the United States ought always to be represented at European capitals; and seldom is. Mrs. Wallace, who was Miss Mildred Fuller, is the daughter of the late Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller of the United States Supreme Court, and had her first taste of official society in Washington in her girlhood.

Although Mrs. Wallace's home is in Washington State, a home for which Mrs. Wallace in particular has great love, they have always maintained a residence in Washington and spent part of each year here. They have dispensed much hospitality in a simple and unostentatious way, and have entertained at their home in Massachusetts avenue not only most of the worth while people in Washington society, official and unofficial, but many of the notables from overseas who have visited Washington in the last several years. The Rt. Hon. Arthur James Balfour, for instance, dined at their house when he was in Washington at the head of the famous British war mission, which visited the United States just after we got into the war. The Wallaces are close friends of the Secretary of State and Mrs. Lansing.

Mrs. Wallace is a woman of fine intellect, a linguist, and a cultivated musician. Although she has been obliged to take things a bit easy since her recovery from a long drawn out and severe illness, she has found time and strength for various war-time activities, and is an ardent and devoted worker for the Red Cross. Mrs. Wallace's niece, Sally Beecher, has made her home with her uncle and aunt since she was a little girl,



MRS. ROBERT C. DOVE
And her baby. Mrs. Dove was formerly Miss Ruth Parker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Myron Parker.



MISS KATHRYN OVERMAN,
Daughter of Senator and Mrs. Lee S. Overman, whose engagement to Gilbert Foster Hambley, of Salisbury, N. C., is announced.



MRS. M. C. SLOCUM
And her small daughter. Mrs. Slocum entertains charmingly at her home in Woodley street.

is, in fact, their "daughter by affection" and will accompany them to Paris. Sally Beecher's sister, Mollie Beecher, who made her home with other relatives, living somewhere on the Hudson, was married some months ago to Ensign Rivers Genet, U. S. N., a brother of young Edouard Genet, who was killed early in the war while flying in France, with the Lafayette Escadrille, I believe. The Genet boys are descendants of Citizen Genet, who was the first envoy of France to the United States when the country was a baby republic.

Have One Son Now In France. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace have one son, Capt. Melville W. Fuller Wallace, U. S. A., who is now in France. His wife, who was formerly Ruth Patterson, and their baby daughter, Patricia Wallace, have been making their home with Mr. and Mrs. Wallace most of the time since Captain Wallace went overseas. He is in the regular army, having gone in from civil life some six or eight months before the United States went into the war. Capt. John Ballentine Pitney and Lieut. Walker B. Beale, who was killed in France some months ago, were other prominent Washington boys who were commissioned second lieutenants at the same time.

Nothing has been heard from Captain Wallace since his return, and it develops that he is to stay on indefinitely. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that young Mr. and Mrs. Wallace may accompany his parents to Paris and that he may make the acquaintance in France of the little daughter he has never seen. This, however, is mere conjecture, for, as I remarked before, the Wallaces' plans are not yet crystallized.

The news that the British Ambassador and Lady Reading are returning to this country is good news, particularly coming at a time when the press is taken up with discussion of the probable successor to Lord Reading in this very important role. His return trip has been put off several times on account of illness, but now he is actually on the way back.

It is understood, however, that the present ambassador is returning merely to gather up the loose ends of diplomatic matters which have come up during his absence and that he will go back to England within a few weeks to resume his duties as lord chief justice of England. It is even suggested that he may go with the President when the Chief Executive sails on his second journey to the peace conference. Lady Reading is accompanying her husband to the United States.

The range of "possibilities" mentioned for the post of ambassador, to the United States seems limitless and includes, if you please, no less persons than Herbert H. Asquith, sometime prime minister of Great Britain, the Rt. Hon. Arthur James Balfour, Sir Robert Borden, premier of Canada, Lord Robert Cecil and a half dozen others almost equally as prominent. Probably when the time actually comes for the appointment of a new ambassador some one not now thought of will be selected. Personally, I wish the choice would fall upon Mr. Balfour—and he could be persuaded to accept—it would be a real joy to be occasionally within range of that wonderful smile of his.

And in some years has the Diplomatic Corps been reduced to its present skeleton proportions. The toll taken by influenza and pneumonia has been a terrible one, and many members of the corps are out of the country for one reason or another. The news, which reached Washington last week, of the death at Tokyo of Paul de Godoy, counselor of the Brazilian embassy to Japan, is particularly sad, for he leaves a widow who is still a bride. Senator de Godoy, who was for some years secretary of the Brazilian embassy in Washington, was married just before leaving for his new post to the lovely daughter of the minister of Guatemala to the United States. Mme. de Godoy is en route here to join her father.

The next diplomat scheduled to join the ranks of the absentees is Gen. Nicholas Urcullu y Cerejo, military attaché of the Spanish embassy, who has been recalled after long service in Washington. His departure, accompanied by Mme. de Urcullu, for a new post will cause considerable regret, for they have come to be regarded almost as fixtures in Washington. They have a charming apartment in the Kew-Forest, and have hosts of friends in diplomatic and official society.

On the other hand there are a few interesting new recruits to the corps. Notably Capt. C. W. G. Gibson, assistant military attaché of the British embassy, and his charming wife, who are established at the Brightling Place, a new post will cause considerable regret, for they have come to be regarded almost as fixtures in Washington. They have a charming apartment in the Kew-Forest, and have hosts of friends in diplomatic and official society.

The ten days until Lent are to be crowded ones, and the pre-Lenten season will come to a close in a blaze of glory on Shrove Tuesday evening with the Free Milk for France Mardi Gras ball at Wardman Park Inn. This gives promise of being quite the most picturesque and brilliant ball of the year. The preparations are far more elaborate than anything which has been attempted this season, and everybody "as in anybody" in town seems to be interested in the undertaking in one way or another.

Wardman Park Inn, a particularly charming place in which to give a big party of this sort, is to be literally transformed for the occasion, a Midway Plaisance set up in the long corridor, the dining room decorated to represent the famous Pre-Catalan restaurant in the Bois de Boulogne near Paris, and the ballroom metamorphosed into an orchard in apple blossom time.

It is whispered that just at the entrance of the Pre-Catalan, where the dairy supper will be served, there will be an improvised stall, with a real live cow, and one of the most beautiful girls in town to serve as milkmaid. Her identity is veiled in mystery, but she and her assistants are to sell milk—in tin cups—from shining pails suspended on old-fashioned yokes over their shoulders. For many years it has been the fad in Paris to drive out to Pre-Catalan in the wee small hours after a night of revelry for a glass of milk still warm from the cow, and now Wash-

Fancies, Fads, And Foibles of Capital Society

from the ladies of the committee. The afternoon performance should be particularly good, as the cast will then be at its freshest, and the committee has announced that if fifty more tickets for the matinee are sold all expenses of the entire production will be covered and the proceeds from the two evening performances can go to the war relief fund.

Several dinner parties have been arranged for Wednesday or Thursday evening to precede the show. Mrs. Marshall Field will give one, also Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Caspar Miller, Mrs. William Morton Grinnell, Mrs. Arthur Graham Glasgow, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Walker and Mrs. H. H. Rogers.

The performance itself is in good shape, catholico in its appeal, and a wealth of talent will be displayed. The audience is earnestly requested to arrive on time, as important events will take place immediately after the rise of the curtain. The programs are novel and attractive. They will be sold by a group of girls, with Louise Delano at their head. Dress rehearsals are to be held at Mrs. Ga.'s house on Monday and Tuesday.

Dinner parties are also being arranged by those who will take their guests to the ball for Neighborhood House. Those who will entertain box parties are Mme. Cremer, wife of the minister from the Netherlands, Mme. George Bakshmetoff, wife of the former imperial Russian ambassador, Mrs. Mackay-Smith, Mrs. Joseph E. Tropp, Mrs. Charles Boughton Wood, Mrs. Dennis J. Upson, Mrs. Francis Berger Moran, Gen. and Mrs. Frederick V. Abbot, Mrs. C. C. Calhoun, Mrs. Walter H. Schoelkopf, Mrs. Truman G. Palmer and Major William Eric Fowler. Mrs. Deane A. Blodgett has generously donated two boxes for the use of the boys from Walter Reed Hospital, who will come as honor guests.

The additional patronesses for the ball include Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, Mrs. Thomas Watt Gregory, Mrs. Carter Glass, Mrs. Newton D. Baker, Mrs. Willard Saulsbury, Mrs. de Blane, Mrs. Colville Barclay, Mrs. Ekegren, Mrs. Grouitch, Mrs. Philip Barber, Mrs. George Barnett, Mrs. Edson Bradley, Mrs. Perry Belmont, Mrs. Tuxton Beale, Mrs. George W. Baird, Mrs. Charles J. Bell, Mrs. Raymond, T. Baker, Mrs. Leigh C. Palmer, Mrs. R. S. Reynolds, Mrs. John Hays Hammond, Mrs. Armistead Peter, Jr., Mrs. Richardson Glover, Mrs. Thomas Marcan Chaffard, Mrs. Charles C. Glover, Mrs. Cary T. Grayson, Mrs. Thales L. Ames, Mrs. Randolph H. McKim, Mrs. William F. Dennis, Mrs. Marcus A. Hanna, Mrs. Carl B. Kesterstein, Mrs. F. Ward Denys, Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, Mrs. (Continued on Page Fifteen.)

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